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EXAMINER				
COPPOLA, JACOB C				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/694,868

Applicant(s)

MATSUNO ET AL.

Examiner

JACOB C. COPPOLA

Art Unit

3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 May 2008.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 8 and 20 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CDC)
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

1. This action is in reply to the remarks and amendment filed on 01 May 2008.
2. Claims 1-22, 25-33, and 36-44 have been amended.
3. Claims 1-44 are currently pending and have been examined.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 8 and 20 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - a. With regards to claim 8, this claim ends with the word "and". This is improper grammatical sentence structure. Appropriate correction is required.
 - b. With regards to claim 20, this claim recites dependency from claim 1 but appears to depend from claim 11. For purposes of this examination, the Examiner will assume dependency from claim 11. Appropriate correction is required.

Previous Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
6. With regard to claims 1, 3-19, 21, 23-26, and 29-44, these claims were previously rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as

Art Unit: 3621

the invention. The Examiner appreciates the Applicants' prompt attention to correcting these deficiencies, as illustrated in the numerous claim amendments, and hereby withdraws the rejection of claims 1, 3-19, 21, 23-26, and 29-44 under § 112, 2nd paragraph.

7. With regard to claims 2, 20, 22, 27, and 28, these claims still fail to meet the requirements, as outlined above, of 35 USC §112, 2nd paragraph. Accordingly, claims 2, 20, 22, 27, and 28 remain rejected.

c. With regard to claim 2, this claim recites managing information "in a related manner". The Examiner is unable to understand the metes and the bounds of the claimed invention because the use of the phrase "in a related manner" causes the claim to fail in particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter.

d. With regard to claim 20, this claim recites "and being related to a service... providing section" preceded by "a creating request sending section" "an authentication information creating request", and "authentication information". Examiner is unable to determine which of the latter 3 elements is "related to a service... providing section", and therefore the claim is vague and indefinite. Additionally, "having a term of validity" is preceded by the same 3 elements as stated above. Examiner is unable to determine which of the 3 elements is "having a term of validity", and therefore the claim is vague and indefinite.

Art Unit: 3621

e. With regards to claim 27, this claim recites "an extended term of validity and an extended term of validity". It is not clear as to whether these terms of validity are the same or different.

f. With regard to claims 22 and 28, these claims recite "with respect", which gives the claims unclear scope.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-44 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

10. Claims 1-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Futamura et al. (U.S. 2002/0026582 A1) ("Futamura").

11. **As per claims 1, 11, and 21**, Futamura discloses a service providing apparatus (see figure 85, components **1001** and **1002**) and, further, discloses the limitations:

g. *an authentication information managing section (service provider **1002**) configured to manage authentication information (IDC) related to the services, the authentication information having a term of validity (IDC expiration date) (see ¶ 0658 and figure 85);*

h. *an extension request accepting section (IDA **1001**) configured to accept an extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information ("the service provider **1002** requests the... IDA **1001** to issue a new IDC"), (see ¶ 0660); and*

i. *an authentication information updating section (IDA **1001**) configured to extend the term of validity ("new expiration date") of the authentication information depending on the extension request, (see ¶ 0661).*

12. **As per claims 2, 3, 12, and 13**, Futamura, as shown, discloses the limitations of claims 1 and 11. Futamura, further, discloses the limitations:

j. *wherein said authentication information managing section (service provider **1002**) is configured to manage, in a related manner, the authentication information, (see ¶ 0658, figure 85 and associated text)*

k. *information related to a request source (public key of SP) which makes the extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information (see figure 85),*

- l. *information related to a request source (public key of SP) which made a creating request to create authentication information (see ¶ 0659, figure 85 and associated text), and*
 - m. *an authority (IDA) to extend the term of validity of the authentication information (see figure 85 and associated text).*
13. **As per claims 4, 5, 14, and 15.** Futamura, as shown, discloses the limitations of claims 1 and 11. Futamura, further, discloses the limitations:
- n. *wherein said authentication information updating section (IDA 1001) is configured to judge whether a request source which made the extension request to extend the term of validity of the authentication information has an authority to extend the term of validity (see ¶ 660: "in the data communication, mutual authentication, addition of a signature, and verification are performed"), and*
 - o. *extends the term of validity of the authentication information when it is judged that the request source has the authority to extend the term of validity (see ¶ 0661), and*
 - p. *creates new authentication information including the extended term of validity (see ¶ 0661) and delete the old authentication information (see ¶ 0663 and 0664).*

14. **As per claims 6, 7, 16, and 17**, Futamura, as shown, discloses the limitations of claims 1 and 11. Futamura, further, discloses the limitations:

q. *wherein said authentication information managing section (service provider **1002**) is configured to manage the authentication information and an extended term of validity of the authentication information in a related manner (see ¶ 0661), and*

r. *a number of times the term of validity of the authentication information is extended in a related manner (see ¶ 0662).*

15. **As per claims 8 and 18**, Futamura, as shown, discloses the limitations of claims 1 and 11. Futamura, further, discloses the limitations:

s. *an extension response sending section (IDA **1001**) configured to send an extension response including an identifier (identification number) for identifying the newly created authentication information having the term of validity extended by said authentication information updating section and (see figures 85 and 52b and respective associated text).*

16. **As per claims 9 and 19**, Futamura, as shown, discloses the limitations of claims 1 and 11. Futamura, further, discloses the limitations:

t. *a monitoring section (service provider **1002**) configured to monitor the term of validity of the authentication information (see ¶ 0660).*

17. **As per claims 10 and 20**, Futamura, as shown, discloses the limitations of claims 1 and 11. Futamura, further, discloses the limitations:

u. *a notifying section (service provider **1002**) configured to transmit information related to the term of validity of the authentication information to a request source (service provider **1002**) which made a creating request to create the authentication information (see ¶ 0659 – 0660).*

18. **As per claims 22, 33, and 44**, Futamura discloses *an integrated services providing section to provide integrated services of one or a plurality of services provided by a service providing section (see figure 20, components **400**, **420**, **430**, and associated text; see also figure 85, components **1001** and **1002**, and associated text)* and, further, discloses the limitations:

v. *a creating request sending section (service provider **1002**) configured to send an authentication information creating request ("request") requesting creation of authentication information having a term of validity ("IDC of a user has been created") (see ¶ 0659) and being related to a service provided by a first service providing section (service provider **1002**) within said service providing section, to the first service providing section (see ¶ 0658+ and figure 85);*

w. *a response receiving section (service provider **1002**) to receive from the first service providing section (IDA **1001**) an authentication information creation response including an authentication information identifier (identification number) for identifying the authentication information and the term of validity of the*

authentication information (see ¶ 0658+, figure 85, figure 52b and associated text);

x. *an extension request sending section (service provider 1002) to send an extension request requesting extension of the term of validity of the authentication information, with respect to the first service providing section (see ¶ 0660).*

19. **As per claims 23, 24, 25, 27, 34, 35, 36, and 38,** Futamura, as shown, discloses the limitations of claims 22 and 33. Futamura, further, discloses the limitations:

y. *wherein the extension request includes the authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information and a requested extension time (see figures 85 and 52b with respective associated text).*

z. *wherein the extension request further includes an identifier for identifying the integrated services providing section (see ¶ 660: "in the data communication, mutual authentication, addition of a signature, and verification are performed").*

aa. *an authentication information managing section (service provider 1002) configured to manage the authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information and the term of validity of the authentication information (see ¶ 0658+, figure 52b and associated text).*

20. **As per claims 26 and 37,** Futamura, as shown, discloses the limitations of claims 22 and 33. Futamura, further, discloses the limitations:

bb. *an extension response receiving section (service provider 1002) configured to receive from the first service providing section an extension*

response including an authentication information identifier for identifying authentication information having an extended term of validity (see ¶ 0658+, figure 52b and associated text).

21. **As per claims 31 and 42**, Futamura, as shown, discloses the limitations of claims 22 and 33. Futamura, further, discloses the limitations:

cc. *a notification receiving section (service provider 1002) configured to receive from the first service providing section a term of validity information notification including information related to the term of validity of the authentication information (see figure 85, step 1: notify of the expiration of IDC and the arrow indicating communication from 1001 to 1002).*

22. **As per claims 32 and 43**, Futamura, as shown, discloses the limitations of claims 22 and 33. Futamura, further, discloses the limitations:

dd. *a monitoring section configured to monitor the term of validity of the authentication information, (see ¶ 0660).*

23. **As per claims 28, 29, 30, 39, 40, and 41**, Futamura, as shown, discloses the limitations of claims 22 and 33. Futamura, further, discloses the limitations:

ee. *a session request sending section configured to send with respect to a second service providing section (service provider 400) within said service providing section, other than the first service providing section, a session request requesting start of a session and including the authentication information identifier for identifying the authentication information (see ¶ 0020, 0289, and*

0290, authentication using IDC and mutual authentication for beginning of session).

ff. *a session response receiving section (IDA or CA) configured to receive from the second service providing section a session response indicating the start of the session and including a session identifier for identifying the session (see ¶ 0289, success of mutual authentication)*

gg. *a session managing section (SP, IDA, or CA) configured to manage a session identifier (session key) for identifying the session (see ¶ 0289+).*

24. The Examiner has pointed out particular references contained in the prior art of record within the body of this action for the convenience of the Applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply. Applicant, in preparing the response, should consider fully the entire reference as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

Conclusion

25. Applicant's amendment filed 01 May 2008 necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

26. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to **Jacob C. Coppola** whose telephone number is **571.270.3922**. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, **Andrew Fischer** can be reached at **571.272.6779**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Art Unit: 3621

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see

<http://portal.uspto.gov/external/portal/pair> <<http://pair-direct.uspto.gov> >. Should you

have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866.217.9197** (toll-free).

/Jacob C Coppola/
Examiner, Art Unit 3621
May 30, 2008

/ANDREW J. FISCHER/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3621